MEASURING UP 2008

THE STATE REPORT CARD ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Ohio



What is *Measuring Up?*

The purpose of a state report card is to provide the general public and policymakers with information they can use to assess and improve postsecondary education in each state. *Measuring Up 2008* is the fifth in a series of biennial report cards.

The report card grades states in six overall performance categories: **Preparation:** How adequately does the state prepare students for education and training beyond high school? **Participation:** Do state residents have sufficient opportunities to enroll in education and training beyond high school? **Affordability:** How affordable is higher education for students and their families? **Completion:** Do students make progress toward and complete their certificates or degrees in a timely manner? **Benefits:** What benefits does the state receive from having a highly educated population? **Learning:** What is known about student learning as a result of education and training beyond high school?

Grades compare the current performance of each state with the best-performing states, but do not compare with past performance. Key indicators (back page) allow states to compare current performance with past performance.

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PREPARATION

B- *2008 Grade* — ↑ *Change Over Time*

Ohio performs fairly well in preparing its young people for college.

- Eighth graders perform well in math, science, and reading, but their scores in writing are fairly low. Scores on the math test have increased substantially over the past 15 years.
- Only 85% of blacks have a high school credential, compared with 92% of whites.

PARTICIPATION

C- *2008 Grade* — ↑ *Change Over Time*

College opportunities for young and working-age adults are fairly low.

- The likelihood of enrolling in college by age 19 is only fair, and a very low percentage of working-age adults are enrolled in higher education.
- Twenty-eight percent of black young adults are enrolled in college, compared with 42% of whites.

AFFORDABILITY

F *2008 Grade* — ↓ *Change Over Time*

Higher education has become less affordable for students and their families.

- Poor and working-class families must devote 57% of their income, even after aid, to pay for costs at public four-year colleges.
- Financial aid to low-income students is low. For every dollar in Pell Grant aid to students, the state spends only 46 cents.

COMPLETION

B- *2008 Grade* — ↑ *Change Over Time*

Ohio performs fairly well in awarding certificates and degrees.

- Fifty-five percent of college students complete a bachelor's degree within six years.
- However, only 33% of blacks graduate within six years, compared with 58% of whites.

REPORT CARD

Preparation	B-
Participation	C-
Affordability	F
Completion	B-
Benefits	C+
Learning	I

WHAT DO THE ARROWS MEAN?

↑ State has increased or remained stable on the key indicator in the category.

↓ State has declined on the key indicator in the category.

See back page for key indicator by category.

BENEFITS

C+ *2008 Grade* — ↑ *Change Over Time*

A fairly small proportion of residents have a bachelor's degree, and this weakens the state economy.

- Fifteen percent of blacks have a bachelor's degree, compared with 26% of whites.
- If all racial/ethnic groups had the same educational attainment and earnings as whites, total annual personal income in the state would be about $10 billion higher.

LEARNING

I *2008 Grade*

Like all states, Ohio receives an "Incomplete" in Learning because there is not sufficient data to allow meaningful state-by-state comparisons.

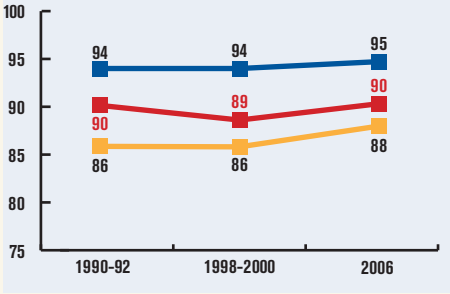
CHANGE OVER TIME: KEY INDICATORS — Ohio 2008

This page reflects Ohio's performance and progress since the early 1990s on several key indicators.

PREPARATION

The percentage of young adults in Ohio who earn a high school diploma has remained stable since the early 1990s. High school completion is slightly above the U.S. average but below the top-performing states.

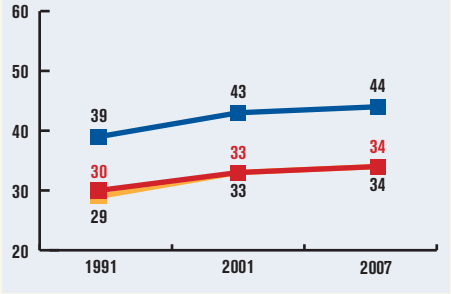
Percentage of 18–24 Year-Olds with a High School Credential*



PARTICIPATION

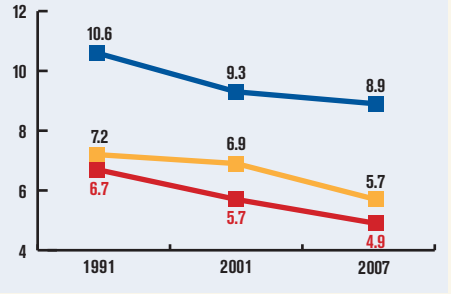
College enrollment of young adults in Ohio has improved since the early 1990s. Ohio is at the national average but below the top states in the percentage of young adults enrolled.

Percentage of 18–24 Year-Olds Enrolled in College*



The enrollment of working-age adults, relative to the number of residents without a bachelor's degree, has declined in Ohio—as it has nationally and in the best-performing states. The percentage attending college in Ohio is below the U.S. average and well below the top states.

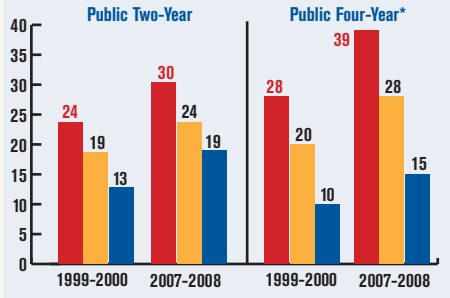
Percentage of 25–49 Year-Olds Without a Bachelor's Degree Enrolled in College



AFFORDABILITY

The share of family income, even after financial aid, needed to pay for college has risen substantially. To attend public two- and four-year colleges in Ohio, students and families pay more than the U.S. average and more than those in the best-performing states.

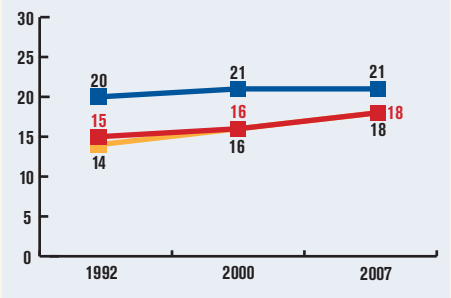
Percentage of Income Needed to Pay for Public Two- and Four-Year Colleges



COMPLETION

The number of undergraduate credentials and degrees awarded in Ohio, relative to the number of students enrolled, has increased since the early 1990s. Ohio performs at the U.S. average but below the top states on this measure.

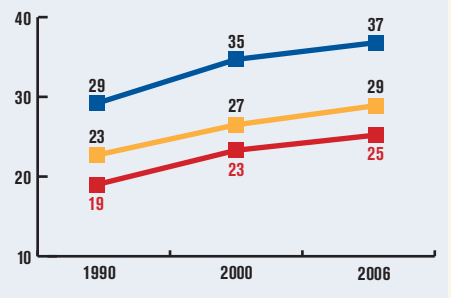
All Degree Completions per 100 Students*



BENEFITS

The percentage of residents who have a bachelor's degree has increased in Ohio, but is below the U.S. average and well below the top states.

Percentage of 25–64 Year-Olds with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher*



**Key indicator for the category.*

LEGEND:

- & = Ohio
- & = United States
- & = Median of Top Five States

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